

The Arnewood School Newsletter



Message from the Head Teacher

The summer months are upon us and with them sunshine, hay fever and exams! For some of our older students this is an anxious time, seemingly filled with revision classes and endless past papers. I am very grateful to a large number of teachers who have given additional time after school, including during the holiday period, for revision study. Practice makes perfect.

Sadly, we were not successful in our bid for recladding the school's Scola building. The feedback we received indicated the Education Funding Agency accepts the case we made for building improvements was valid. We are therefore resolved to reapplying and will do further work to strengthen our case. Unfortunately, this means spending school funds to take the project to tender. With contentious changes being made to education funding nationally, this may be the last opportunity we have to make significant improvements to our school buildings in the foreseeable future.

At this time of year, we continue to show prospective parents and job applicants around the school. It is always impressive to walk around the classrooms and see the variety of topics taught and the creative approaches teachers employ. The school always has a productive feel to it. Parents and carers clearly play their part making sure their children are "school ready" each morning. We know our job is made easier by the many parents and carers who work with us to ensure each child meets their potential. For those students taking exams this summer – good luck!

Nigel Pressnell
Head Teacher

Year 7 News

Sporty Sevens!

By Mrs Watson, Head of Year 7

The last few months have seen a number of our Year 7 students undertake some amazing sporting challenges and achieve some fantastic results.

On Sunday 30th April, seven Year 7 students as well as staff including, Mrs Watson, Mrs Bagshaw and Mrs Knight took part in Oakhaven Hospice's annual Colour Run with their friends and families. Entrants raised money through sponsorship for this great charity and had lots of fun in the process. The run took place in the grounds of Brockenhurst College and is slightly different to other fun runs. Competitors run, jog or walk the course and are pelted with powder paint at various intervals in a bid to be as colourful as possible at the end.



From left to right: Jamie West, Tibbie Evans, Hayden Prince, Molly Delarge, Charlie Clements and James Seager.



The Future of Cricket

Lawrence Taylor regularly plays cricket for New Milton Cricket Club, training every Friday evening and has done for the last 8 years. Recently he was chosen to play for the Hampshire team and is justly proud of his achievement. Very well done, Lawrence!



Cycling Champion

Maddie Saunders is a cycling champion, undertaking her 3rd year with Poole Cycle Speedway. She trains 3 times a week and competes in the South-West Women's League. Her latest victory saw her win the Women's League's Individual Intermediate category and was the youngest competitor to take part. She has recently been chosen for the team GB's preliminary squad – what a fantastic achievement!

Karaté Success for Harrison

Harrison West is a brown belt karate champion who is hoping to achieve his black belt in July. He trains 3 times a week with the Southern England Karaté Club and recently had great success in the World Karaté Union Competition in Weston-Super-Mare. There, he won bronze in the individual fighting competition, and silver in the team fighting competition. He hopes to compete in the 4 Nations Competition at the end of May and we wish him every success.



We really are very proud of all our Year 7's sporting achievements and look forward to hearing of further successes in due course!

Year 8 News

Creative Eights

By Miss Harnett, Year 8 Tutor

It's been a brilliant term for our year 8 students who have been experiencing lots of exciting opportunities outside the classroom.

We have seen lots of sporting success from our students. Cameron Rumbelow, Cohen Ward and Sam Parker had the excitement of experiencing their football team's promotion to the league above. Burton Youth FC had a fantastic season, suffering only one defeat and scoring an amazing 127 goals in total. Well done boys and good luck for next season!

Cian Everett is enjoying success in sculling with Christchurch Rowing Club, recently coming 5th out of 13 at a local meet. They are now into the Regatta season and we look forward to hearing of further successes in due course. Good luck Cian!

Student Achieves Yellow Belt

Ben Hurl has added to Year 8's sporting success by achieving his yellow belt in Taekwondo. The yellow belt represents the earth from which a plant takes root and grows; it signifies the foundation of Taekwondo being laid. Congratulations Ben, we look forward to seeing your success grow!



Southampton Music Festival saw Arnewood's Natasha Owen compete as a soloist. She went on to win the cup for her age group with her performance of 'Inside the basket'. A fantastic achievement Natasha, well done!

Drama Club

A number of our students are lucky enough to have been offered the chance to participate in an after school drama club. Over 20 Year 8 students are attending the sessions run by Mrs Watson and Miss Kitchen. The students are exploring fairy tales, looking specifically at how music can enhance and change the meaning of a scene.

Ella Whettingsteel says the club "gives everyone a really good chance to show themselves off and we really enjoy it!". While Imogen Clark says she "can't wait to continue with the work we have been creating".

The drama club students are now looking forward to a trip to see 'The Play That Goes Wrong' in July.



What a fantastic term Year 8 have had so far. Well done to all students involved and congratulations to those who have tried something new!

Year 9 News

Striving for Excellence

By Mr Elward, Head of Year 9

Year 9 tutor reps have worked alongside the school council this year, encouraging tutor bases to reduce costs through recycling. More recently, they were involved in decision making which resulted in playground seating being purchased, following Mr Pressnell, Headteacher, agreeing to a case put forward by the school.



Students are currently involved in cross-year-group working parties. The boys are looking at drugs in the community, whilst the girls are taking on the issue of mental health. These are significant issues for young people, and ideas are being gathered with the focus on how students would like the school to support them in these areas.

Year 9 tutor reps have requested more meetings to identify the issues relevant to them, with a view to provide talking, teaching and learning opportunities that they will find useful.

The great thing about this is that it will be student-led by the tutor reps, so thanks must be extended to all those taking part.

Table Tennis Champion



Well done to Jack Trafford (9RML) who represented Bournemouth A in table tennis and has recently won a gold medal at the National Cadet League. Jack also represents Dorset County Table Tennis Association for his age group and has played competitions throughout England.

Rugby Success

The Year 9 rugby team has had a very successful 2016/2017. In the first term, the team went to Southampton rugby club to play in the Hampshire U14 Rugby tournament and won. The team also played in the New Forest U14 League and remained unbeaten in the full 15 a-side version of the game.



Back row, left to right: Marshall Hannan-Bobe, Callum Brady, James Davies, Liam Dyke, Sam Rudge, Harry Barber, Josh Fisher, Zak Eldridge

Front row, left to right: Taylor Ewer, Joe Gibbon, Jack Harris, George Jones, Sean Fitzgibbon, Freddy Hodges

U14s Selected for London Irish Squad



After a thrilling season three of the Year 9 rugby team have recently been selected for the U14 London Irish Bronze Academy Squad. Left to right, Josh Fisher, George Jones and Marshall Hannon-Bobe. Huge congratulations and we wish them every success.

High Achiever, Matilda Gleave



Matilda Gleave was entered into the Intermediate Maths Challenge for students in Years 9, 10 and 11. A National competition which comprises of challenging, thought provoking questions.

She achieved the highest score for the school and qualified for the next round of the competition, the Grey Kangaroo Challenge. Only a very few number of people qualify for this competition.

In the Kangaroo challenge Matilda achieved a score that put her in the top 25% of performers nationally. These questions are exceptionally difficult and require a high level of ability to complete them.

This is a huge achievement and a well deserved reward for Matilda's efforts over many years.

Year 9 Easter Celebration

The Year 9 end of term celebration took place just before the Easter Holidays to congratulate the top 10 boys and girls who achieved the most points in their year group on ADDS. Students receive their rewards for exemplary performance both academically and socially. The students were rewarded with refreshments and a raffle.



Year 10

Enthusiastic Tens!

By Mr Byles, Head of Year 10

The spring term saw a busy time for the Year 10s including exams, a drive to find work experience places and a lot of students involved in extra curricular activities, including sports events and a large representation of the year group in the school's successful production of High School Musical.

Engagement and enthusiasm in the classroom was recorded through ADDS rewards. Congratulations to the following students who have already achieved their gold award. Rosie Munro, Alfie Bloor, Monica Banto, Shauna Pascual, Dan Savage, Olivia Gates, Charlotte Gibbon, Rachel Fryer, Charlotte Robinson-Green, Eddy Brown, Ben Spiers, Freya Wood, Hannah Crutch, Aaliyah Gregory, Fahim Ahmad and Ana Nagiel. Special congratulations go to Ellen White who is the first student in the year group to achieve their platinum award.

The end of the spring term saw an opportunity to have an Easter celebration for ADDS success with the students receiving Easter cakes and an opportunity to win vouchers or Easter eggs in a raffle. The students are pictured below with Mrs Rolfe, Mr Byles and Mr Pressnell.



Year 11 News

Work Hard, Dream Big

By Miss Kasey, Head of Year 11

Year 11 Celebration Assembly

On Wednesday 17th May, year 11 students, tutors and parents gathered in the hall for a special Celebration Assembly. The assembly is an Arnewood tradition that marks the end of Year 11's formal time at the school and the start of the examination period.

The assembly reflected on Year 11's five years at Arnewood; from the Fairthron trip in Year 7, through the Rhineland and Porthcawl trips in Year 9, to the emotional Third Reich Tour of Year 11. There was live music from Victoria Allen (11AML) who performed a song on guitar that she had written especially for the occasion. However, we also celebrated the achievements of many individuals within school as well as having a laugh at some old photographs (of students and staff).



Students and parents reflect back on the fashionable hair seen throughout their time at Arnewood.



Victoria Allen sings 'Leaving' which she had written especially for the leavers assembly.

Year 11 naturally conducted themselves maturely and respectfully on their final formal day at Arnewood and the day was declared a success by many parents and staff.

A real achievement for everyone involved. Thank you Year 11, good luck in your exams and goodbye.

Student Awarded Great Accolade for Construction Work

Nathan Ferris (11AOR) was awarded The Pennyfarthing Homes Construction Award on Monday 15th May for the most outstanding student who has demonstrated hard work and dedication to their studies in Construction. The winner of the award also receives a £200 voucher from Travis Perkins, sponsored by Pennyfarthing Homes. The prize is designed to provide a young student with the opportunity to purchase tools and equipment which will support their future career and allow them to apply some of the skills they have learnt whilst studying construction at the Arnewood School. Nathan is keen to study Construction at Arnewood next year.



Sixth Form News

Looking to the Future

By Mrs Sheppard, Deputy Head of Sixth Form



Year 12 enjoyed an afternoon at Bournemouth University, which held the annual UCAS fair. Students had the chance to chat to universities about courses on offer and about the universities they are interested in. Students attended seminars on the UCAS application process, student finance, student life and help with choosing a course. Students also had the opportunity to chat to apprenticeship providers.

Fashion Show

Students from The Arnewood School Sixth Form took part in the 10th annual charity fashion show in April, organised by the Rotary Club of New Milton.

Held at the New Milton Memorial Centre, students Courtney Owen, Ylenia Coccia, Veronica Fabris, Valentina Andriolo, Sofia Antinarella, Iara Sousa, Sammy Fagan and Kate Pike, impressed audiences in prom wear from The Lifestyle Concept at Highcliffe, Milford's Moss on the Green and Tiffanys of Southampton.



Mrs Margaret Wilson, who helped with the event said, "The girls did very well and you should be very proud of them. They all looked stunning in the beautiful dresses. It was such a lovely finish to a very successful evening." The evening raised approximately £1,800.

Y13 Sports Leaders

Year 13 BTEC sports students spent the morning at Littledown High ropes course as part of their BTEC sports course unit on leadership. The students were looking at the qualities, roles and characteristics that make a successful sports leader.



Great Oratory Display from Arnewood Students

Five sixth form students roused audiences with their new found public speaking skills.

The talented Year 12 students gave speeches Winston Churchill would have appreciated, thanks to an intensive six week course on public speaking, given by Clive Wren. Their training culminated in a speech day when the teenagers had to give compelling speeches to parents, school staff and governors.



Headteacher Nigel Pressnell said, "All of our students speeches were extremely powerful and inspiring. It was a very proud moment to witness how far they had come."

The five students (from left to right) - Katherine Charles, Samantha Fagan, Rebecca Reece, Daisy Shepard and Henry Lowndes - completed a demanding, and often nerve-racking, course on public speaking.

For six weeks they attended an hour long course covering different themes such as, how to structure a speech, gestures, pausing, using anecdotes and concluding. The course also used good and bad role models such as, Barrack Obama and Gordon Brown, to give the students examples on what to emulate and avoid.

Their final speech day tackled a range of subjects, including global poverty, defending pessimism and engaging young people in politics.

One of the talented orators, Rebecca Reece, said: "This whole experience was very challenging and I have learned some very valuable skills that I am sure will help me in the future."

French Exchange 2017



Exchange programmes are one of the best ways to embrace a new culture, which was definitely true for our Year 9 and 10 students who recently spent an exciting week in France.

The 18 students travelled to Vannes on Monday 24th April, a few weeks after hosting the French students here in New Milton. The first day was spent at our partner school, Collège Saint-Exupéry, where students were treated to a special breakfast and welcome from the Headmaster, Monsieur Audoucet, before going on to lessons in small groups. The afternoon was spent at Larmor Baden, where they were given an introduction to oyster farming. Students were even brave enough to give the oysters a try!



Headteacher Nigel Pressnell, presents Collège Saint-Exupéry's Deputy Headteacher with an engraved school bell.

An engraved school bell was presented to Madame Berthelot, Deputy Headteacher, by Nigel Pressnell on behalf of The Arnewood school, as a symbol of the friendship which has existed between the schools for 33 years. This was very well received.

Other activities throughout the week included a quiz in the old town of Vannes, visiting a biscuiterie in Pont-Aven, a guided tour of the private château at Josselin and a picnic at St Goustan overlooking the picturesque port.

Students also had lots of opportunities to visit cafés and do some shopping throughout the week. This was the perfect opportunity for them to test their French. The weekend was spent with their host families doing various activities before returning on Monday 1st May, stopping en route at the spectacular Mont St.Michel.

Students and teachers from Vannes had previously visited Arnewood for a week during March, staying with our students and teachers. They took part in lots of activities throughout the week, including visiting London and spending a morning attending lessons at Arnewood. The French teachers also presented Headteacher, Nigel Pressnell, with a beautiful photograph of Vannes, which will be displayed in the staff room.



French exchange students enjoy one of Mr Barrett's famous history lessons.

Year 9 student Justin Benoit-Means, took part in the exchange programme and said, "I highly recommend the exchange programme to any student wanting to improve their language skills. The prospect of having a stranger in our house, who didn't speak much English, was quite a daunting one. Initially, I wasn't too keen on the idea but, after many family discussions, came round to it. The first day was slightly awkward but we were all having a laugh together from day 2. It made us think of doing activities that we would not normally consider, like all playing cards after supper during the week.

We were all really sad to see our guest leave but, having made friends with him, it made me less apprehensive about going over to France a couple of weeks later. It turned out I had no need to worry at all as his family were all really nice, were great hosts and I had an amazing time! During my stay my understanding of spoken French improved greatly and, by the end of the week, I was able to participate in conversations with the family more fluently and with greater confidence."

RENT The Musical

Drama and music students in Year 11, 12 and 13 went to the Lighthouse Theatre in Poole on Friday 5th May to watch the critically acclaimed, RENT.



This exhilarating landmark musical tells the thrilling story of a group of impoverished young artists struggling to survive in New York City's East Village in the thriving days of Bohemian excess. Inspired by Puccini's classic opera *La bohème*, RENT features unforgettable music and lyrics by Jonathan Larson including the much-loved songs *Seasons of Love*, *Take Me or Leave Me* and *La Vie Bohème*. Winner of four Tony® Awards, six Drama Desk Awards and the hugely prestigious Pulitzer Prize for Drama, it ran on Broadway for an astonishing 12 years.

I was lucky enough to watch the original stage cast in 1998 starring Idina Menzel and I was astonished at the incredible talent in the 20th anniversary tour. I have never been in a theatre when the entire audience were on their feet, clapping and cheering before the cast had even sung the last note. Jemma Wood in Year 13 said, "that has actually changed my life".

By Mrs Watson

SCHOOL OF ROCK THE MUSICAL

Upcoming important Expressive Arts dates:

School of Rock auditions are on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th June – please prepare any song of your choice, it needs to give you the opportunity to act and perform it, not just sing it.

We are hosting an exciting evening on Thursday 20th July, "May it Be Musical" to help raise money for the school production. Students will perform a song, dance, piece of music or an acting performance from any musical of their choice. To have the opportunity to perform in the concert, students should audition on Tuesday 20th June. Please see Mrs Watson or Mr Elkington for further details.

Students Achieve 1sts and 2:1s for Extended Writing Project

Twelve students from Year 8 and 9 have taken part in this year's Scholars' Programme.

Students worked with a PhD tutor from Southampton University for six weeks on the topic of 'Genetic Manipulation of Mice in the Study of Disease'. They took part in a weekly one-hour session in school and completed additional homework every week. Towards the end of the programme, students had to complete a 2000-word extended writing piece around the research topic, which was then graded on a university style basis with students achieving 1sts, 2:1s or 2:2s.



Notable performances include Sam Constable in Year 8 with a 1st, scoring 88% and Matilda Gleave and Ben Pang in Year 9 who also received a 1st, both scoring 86%.

Well done to all students who took part in the programme: Alex John, Amelia Lowe, Emily Sabin, Dominic Renouf, Mikayla Kleinhans and Sam Constable in Year 8. Erin Hunt, Erin Gough, Matilda Gleave, Stuart White, Sam Fulton and Benjamin Pang in Year 9.

UNDER 14s GIRLS FOOTBALL Join Us Next Season!



The Highcliffe Hawks Girls are inviting girls in Year 8 & 9 in September 2017 to join their successful Under 14s football team.

The Hawks Girls are an established team who have enjoyed two competitive seasons playing in the [New Forest Girls League](#). Training is on Monday evenings & matches on Saturday mornings. Coaches are DBS checked and have FA Safeguarding & First Aid training.

If you enjoy playing football & would like to be part of our club, email highcliffehawksgirls@hotmail.com or contact Ian on 07823 335965. Further information is also available at www.highcliffe-hawks.co.uk

Dates for Your Diary

29th May - 2nd June

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HALF TERM

5th June (Monday) School re-opens at 0820

7th June (Wednesday)
School Council meeting.

12th June (Monday) A2 courses commence.

11th - 13th June (Sun - Tue) Y7 Tile Barn visit.

17th-18th June (Sat - Sun) DofE expedition to Brockenhurst

22nd June (Thursday) Y12 cGI workshop Solent University

22nd June (Thursday) G&T parents working group.

27th June (Tuesday) Sixth Form information evening.

28th June (Wednesday) Y11 prom.

29th June (Thursday) Y6 transfer day.

29th June (Thursday) External exams end.

30th June (Friday) Y7 Geography trip to Purbeck.

3rd July (Monday) International Day.

4th July (Tuesday) Sports Day

5th July (Wednesday) STEAM Day. School Council meeting. Rounders (2.30pm-6pm)

6th July (Thursday) Y6 transfer day. Sixth Form Prom.

7th July (Friday) Y6 transfer day.

7th - 9th July (Fri-Sun) Y10 DofE to Corfe/Swanage.

11th July (Tuesday) U13/14 Hampshire County Athletics.

12th - 14th July (Wed - Fri) Y9 to Porthcawl.

13th July (Thursday) Summer Concert @ 7pm.

14th July (Friday) Y7 & 8 Records of Achievement sent home.

21st July (Friday) SCHOOL CLOSING AT 1320 - END OF TERM.